

**To:** Whitley, Christopher[Whitley.Christopher@epa.gov]; Washburn, Ben[washburn.ben@epa.gov]; Sanders, LaTonya[Sanders.Latonya@epa.gov]  
**From:** Carey, Curtis  
**Sent:** Mon 10/20/2014 2:55:22 PM  
**Subject:** RE: OPA Daily Digest 10/17/14

Great, thanks for the info!

**From:** Whitley, Christopher  
**Sent:** Monday, October 20, 2014 9:49 AM  
**To:** Washburn, Ben; Carey, Curtis; Sanders, LaTonya  
**Subject:** RE: OPA Daily Digest 10/17/14

Indeed, it is a Kansas City, Mo., Health Department event to test kids' blood lead levels. Crystal McIntyre of our Lead Program will be attending. Not an EPA-lead event.

**From:** Washburn, Ben  
**Sent:** Monday, October 20, 2014 9:47 AM  
**To:** Carey, Curtis; Whitley, Christopher; Sanders, LaTonya  
**Subject:** RE: OPA Daily Digest 10/17/14

Janet Bowman sends the entries over – but she just collects them from the staff. She is not involved in the events at all.

I've not heard of any OPA involvement in this, but maybe LaTonya has. Looks like it could be Children's Health Month related.

Benjamin M. Washburn

Public Affairs Specialist

EPA Region 7

(913) 551-7364

**From:** Carey, Curtis  
**Sent:** Monday, October 20, 2014 9:46 AM  
**To:** Washburn, Ben; Whitley, Christopher  
**Subject:** RE: OPA Daily Digest 10/17/14

Ben and Chris, Who did this item come from? It's under WWPD. Are we plugged in and helping? It was briefed out by water this morning at senior staff. **10/22/14** – Operation Breakthrough-St. Vincent's Head Start outreach event, Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Crystal McIntyre, 7261

**From:** Washburn, Ben  
**Sent:** Friday, October 17, 2014 3:47 PM  
**To:** R7 Daily Digest Group  
**Subject:** OPA Daily Digest 10/17/14

**OPA Daily Digest for 10/17/14**

**Congressional Inquiries:**

None

**State Government Inquiries:**

**Sen. Gary Romine (Mo.)** – letter – 10/1/14: Questioning high levels of lead in soil in southeastern Missouri.  
Contact: Ben Washburn, 7364 (open)

**Press Inquiries:**

**KWMU Public Radio, St. Louis** – Veronique LaCapra – 10/16/14: Questions about West Lake Landfill Site in Bridgeton, Mo. Contact: Chris Whitley, 7394 (closed)

**St. Louis Post-Dispatch** – Jacob Barker – 10/15/14: Questions about West Lake Landfill Site in Bridgeton, Mo. Contact: Ben Washburn, 7364 (closed)

**KWMU Public Radio, St. Louis** – Rachel Lippmann – 10/17/14 – Questions about EPA’s role in regulating the transportation and incineration of hospital and medical hazardous wastes. Referred to Liz Purchia and George Hull at EPA headquarters. Contact: Chris Whitley, 7394 (closed)

**Vince Online Media, New York, N.Y.** – Taylor Dolven – 10/17/14 – Questions about statistics related to genetically modified organisms (GMOs) crops in the United States were referred to HQ. Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557 (closed)

#### **Environmental Stories:**

**Associated Press - EPA Approves New Weed Killer** - 10/17/14 - The Environmental Protection Agency has approved a new version of a popular weed killer to be used on genetically modified corn and soybeans. The EPA said Wednesday that it will allow the use of a 2,4-D weed killer called Enlist Duo, a new version of the popular herbicide used since the 1940s.

<http://www.chem.info/news/2014/10/epa-approves-new-weed-killer>

**National Geographic - Production Begins at Second U.S. Cellulosic Biofuel Facility** - 10/17/14 - You don’t often hear Kansas and Spain mentioned in the same sentence. Yet today Spanish company Abengoa is bringing another big cellulosic biofuel facility online in Hugoton, a small community in the Southwest corner of the state.

<http://energyblog.nationalgeographic.com/2014/10/17/production-begins-at-second-cellulosic-biofuel-facility/>

**WNAX Radio (Yankton, S.D.) - ASA Welcomes Approval Of Enlist Duo Herbicide** - 10/17/14 - Leaders of both the American Soybean Association and National Corn Grower’s are hailing EPA’s approval for registration of Enlist Duo Herbicide. ASA President and Iowa farmer Ray Gaesser says the product is an important tool for producers in dealing with resistant weeds.

<http://wnax.com/news/180081-asa-welcomes-approval-of-enlist-duo-herbicide/>

**Biomass Magazine - Bringing Advanced Biofuels to Minneapolis** - 10/17/14 - The entire industry needs to let

Congress and EPA know that continuation and proper implementation of the RFS is absolutely critical. As Mike McAdams put it, it's one thing for industry heads or lobbyists to bark up any given politician's tree, but hearing it straight from the horse's mouth—well, lots and lots of horses' mouths—has a much more profound effect

<http://biomassmagazine.com/blog/article/2014/10/bringing-advanced-biofuels-to-minneapolis>

**Daily Caller - Romance In Obamaland: The EPA And The NRDC's Beyond-Cozy Conspiracy - 10/17/14 -** When a government agency initiates a policy that will affect literally every American family and business, that agency should consider all stakeholders' opinions in a serious, balanced way.

<http://dailycaller.com/2014/10/17/romance-in-obamaland-the-epa-and-the-nrdcs-beyond-cozy-conspiracy/>

**Progressive Pulse - NC solar businesses endorse EPA Clean Power Plan - 10/17/14 -** 528 solar businesses, including 49 from North Carolina, issued a letter to the White House today, endorsing limits on carbon pollution from power plants and advocating that solar energy become a focal point of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's proposed Clean Power Plan.

<http://pulse.ncpolicywatch.org/2014/10/17/nc-solar-businesses-endorse-epa-clean-power-plan/>

**Bloomberg BNA - EPA Meeting on Water Rule Impact Comes 'Too Little, Too Late,' Rural Utilities Say - 10/17/14 -** The Environmental Protection Agency's meeting to evaluate the impact of the proposed waters of the U.S. rule on small businesses has come "too little, too late," the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association said Oct. 15.

<http://www.bna.com/epa-meeting-water-n17179897016/>

**The Hill - EPA finds little benefit to pesticide linked to bee declines - 10/17/14 -** The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) said that it found little to no benefit to using neonicotinoid pesticides keep soybeans free of insects. The Thursday report is a key part of the EPA's review of whether it should restrict the use of neonicotinoids, which biologists argue reduce harm bees and reduce their populations.

<http://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/221055-epa-finds-little-benefit-to-pesticide-linked-to-bee-declines>

**AgProfessional - EPA finds neonicotinoid seed treatments of little benefit in soy - 10/17/14 -** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released an analysis of the benefits of neonicotinoid seed treatments for insect control in soybeans. Neonicotinoid pesticides are a class of insecticides widely used on U.S. crops that EPA is reviewing with particular emphasis for their impact on pollinators.

<http://www.agprofessional.com/news/EPA-finds-neonicotinoid-seed-treatments-of-little-benefit-in-soy-279476622.html>

**Climate Progress - EPA Announces \$43 Million For Southwestern Tribes Suffering Drought** - 10/17/14 - On Wednesday, the Environmental Protection Agency announced \$43 million for environmental projects on Native American grounds throughout the Southwest. According to EPA's Regional Administrator for the Pacific Southwest Jared Blumenfeld, 44 tribes in California are in danger of running out of water.

<http://thinkprogress.org/climate/2014/10/16/3580808/epa-43-million-tribes-drought/>

**The Hill - Feds fine offshore oil rig owner \$1M** - 10/17/14 - The federal government has levied a \$1 million fine on the owner of a Gulf of Mexico oil rig for allegedly discharging oil and chemicals into the gulf. Officials said the ATP Innovator rig, owned by ATP Oil & Gas Corp. that has since been decommissioned, released unauthorized oil and a dispersant into the water, a fact first discovered in a 2012 inspection.

<http://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/221002-epa-fines-offshore-oil-rig-owner-1m>

**Care 2 - EPA Approves Controversial 'Superweed' Pesticide for GMO Crops** - The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced this week approval, "with first-time ever restrictions," of the new herbicide Enlist Duo, manufactured by Dow AgriSciences. The pesticide is approved for use in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Ohio, South Dakota and Wisconsin.

<http://www.care2.com/causes/epa-approves-controversial-superweed-pesticide-for-gmo-crops.html>

**St. Louis Post Dispatch - Abengoa opens U.S. cellulosic ethanol plant in Kansas** - 10/17/14 - A Spanish company whose U.S. headquarters are based in Chesterfield has opened its first cellulosic ethanol plant in Southwest Kansas.

[http://www.stltoday.com/business/local/abengoa-opens-u-s-cellulosic-ethanol-plant-in-kansas/article\\_be3c7798-e227-5fd8-85cf-f02b45fd4f7a.html](http://www.stltoday.com/business/local/abengoa-opens-u-s-cellulosic-ethanol-plant-in-kansas/article_be3c7798-e227-5fd8-85cf-f02b45fd4f7a.html)

**Hays Daily News - EPA agrees to register new herbicide to fight resistant weeds** - 10/17/14 - The Environmental Protection Agency has agreed to register the herbicide Enlist Duo with first-time ever restrictions to manage the problem of resistant weeds. The pesticide is for use in controlling weeds in corn and soybeans genetically-engineered to tolerate 2,4-D and glyphosate.

<http://hdnews.net/news/newherbicide101614>

**Science 2.0 - Legal War Over New GMO Weed Killer System Commences As NRDC Sues To Block Enlist Duo** - 10/17/14 - The Natural Resources Defense Council became the first environmental group to file suit in an attempt to block the rollout of the latest GMO crop and weed killer system, Enlist Duo, developed by Dow AgroSciences.

[http://www.science20.com/jon\\_entine\\_the\\_contrarian/legal\\_war\\_over\\_new\\_gmo\\_weed\\_killer\\_system\\_commences\\_as\\_nrdc\\_sues\\_to\\_block\\_enlist\\_duo](http://www.science20.com/jon_entine_the_contrarian/legal_war_over_new_gmo_weed_killer_system_commences_as_nrdc_sues_to_block_enlist_duo)

**National Review Online - Study: EPA Low-Balled Costs of Carbon Regs** - 10/17/14 - The Environmental Protection Agency may have significantly low-balled its cost estimates for its proposed Clean Power Plan rules, a new study by National Economic Research Associates suggests.

<http://www.nationalreview.com/corner/390578/study-epa-low-balled-costs-carbon-regs-jillian-kay-melchior>

**The Hill - EPA issues air quality guidance for schools** - 10/17/14 - The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) wants to help school districts better protect indoor air quality and improve energy efficiency. The agency released guidance tips for schools on Friday, arguing they would help cut energy costs and promote health.

<http://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/221111-epa-issues-air-quality-guidance-for-schools>

**FuelFix - Natgasoline clears EPA hurdle for \$1 billion methanol plant in Beaumont** - 10/17/14 - The company has received from the Environmental Protection Agency its greenhouse gas permit, the final stamp ahead of a massive Beaumont project expected to require thousands of construction workers and carry a more than \$20 million annual payroll once it begins producing methanol at the end of 2016, company Vice President Bashir Lebada said.

<http://fuelfix.com/blog/2014/10/17/natgasoline-clears-epa-hurdle-for-1-billion-methanol-plant-in-beaumont/>

**Agriculture.com - EPA Report: Neonicotinoids Provide Minimal Soybean Yield Help** - 10/17/14 - The class of soybean pesticide seed treatments about which speculation has swirled on its impact on the decline of critical pollinator populations in the U.S. has now been deemed "of little or no benefit" to the crop, federal officials said Thursday.

[http://www.agriculture.com/news/business/epa-rept-neonicotinoids-provide-minimal\\_5-ar45696](http://www.agriculture.com/news/business/epa-rept-neonicotinoids-provide-minimal_5-ar45696)

**eNews Park Forest - EPA Releases Guidance to Improve Schools' Indoor Air Quality and Energy Efficiency** - 10/17/14 - Today, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released new guidance to help school districts protect indoor air quality while increasing energy efficiency during school renovations.

<http://www.ewspfc.com/latest-news/science/science-a-environmental/56136-epa-releases-guidance-to-improve-schools-indoor-air-quality-and-energy-efficiency.html>

**Columbus Dispatch - Support EPA's proposal for clean power** - 10/14/17 - The National Science Foundation recently published a report that is "one of the most comprehensive studies to investigate the link between climate change and California's ongoing drought," according to the foundation.

<http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/editorials/2014/10/17/1-support-epa.html>

**Press Releases:**

Link to all R7 press releases: <http://go.usa.gov/Qx5>

None

**Fact Sheets:**

Link to all R7 fact sheets: <http://www.epa.gov/region7/factsheets>

None

**Upcoming Administrator/RA Events:**

\* New additions noted with an asterisk

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**10/21-22/14** – EPA LEAN Summit, Washington, D.C. Contact: Becky Weber, 7487

**11/4/14** – COOP Exercise, Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Chris Taylor, 7736

**11/5/14** – Attend the Pollinator Protection Brownbag, Regional Office. Contact: Catherine Wooster-Brown, 7425

**11/12/14** – Native American Heritage Event Discussion on “Climate Change and Adaptation in Indian Country, Regional Office. Contact: Alex Owutaka, 7584

**11/12/14** – Regional Tribal Operations Committee Meeting, Regional Office. Contact: Patrick Bustos, 7969

**11/13/14** – National Association of Farm Broadcasters Trade Talk Show, Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557

**11/18/14** – Region 7 Small Business Environmental Assistance Providers, Regional Office. Contact: Gary Bertram, 7533

**11/19/14** – Omaha CSO Program Tour, Omaha, Neb. Contact: Karen Flournoy, 7782

**12/2-3/14** – Attend the Four State Director's Meeting, Regional Office. Contact: Dick Sumpter, 7661

**12/15/14** – Joint R7 & R8 Meeting, Denver, Colo. Contact: Damon Frizzell, 7560

**DRA:**

**10/27-28/14** – Attend the RCRA Director's Meeting, Washington, DC. Contact: Dana Peters, 7444

**10/29/14** – Attend the OUST Director's Meeting, Washington, DC. Contact: Dana Peters, 7444

**11/4/14** – COOP Exercise, Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Chris Taylor, 7736

**11/5/14** – Attend the Pollinator Protection Brownbag, Regional Office. Contact: Catherine Wooster-Brown, 7425

**11/12/14** – Native American Heritage Event Discussion on "Climate Change and Adaptation in Indian Country, Regional Office. Contact: Alex Owutaka, 7584



**11/18/14** – Attend the Executive Management Council Meeting, Washington DC. Contact: Dana Peters, 7444

**12/2-3/14** – Attend the Four State Director's Meeting, Regional Office. Contact: Dick Sumpter, 7661

**RA/Immediate Office**

None

**Other Events**

**AWMD**

None

**CNSL**

None

**ECO/EJ**

**10/19-22/14** – Senior Enforcement Managers Meeting, Washington, D.C., Contact: D. Singletary, x7373

**10/22/14** – Parkview Well Public Meeting, Grand Island, Ne. Contact: Karim Dawani, 7289

**ENSV**

None

**PLMG**

None

**RA/OPA**

None

## **SUPR**

**10/22/14** – Public Availability Session to discuss remedial action and the Five Year Review for the Parkview Well Site, Grand Island, Neb. Contact: Brad Vann, 7611

## **WWPD**

**10/20-21/14** – Hypoxia Task Force Meeting, Alton, Ill. Contact: Karen Flournoy, 7782

**10/20-25/14** – EPA Grants Reporting and Tracking System Training, Seattle, Wash. Contact: Theresa Brink, 7337

**10/22/14** – St. Louis Regional Chamber and Metro Water Infrastructure Partnership water infrastructure seminar, St. Louis, Mo. Contact: Karen Flournoy, 7782

**10/22/14** – Operation Breakthrough-St. Vincent's Head Start outreach event, Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Crystal McIntyre, 7261

**10/23/14** – Kansas Department of Health and Environment Program Review, Topeka, Kan. Contact: Cassie Mance, 7355

**10/27-30/14** – EPA Direct Implementation Network for Tribal Drinking Water Meeting, Washington, DC. Contacts: Stan Calow 7410, Kimberly Willis 7069

**10/29-30/14** – National EPA Wet Weather Meeting, Chicago, Ill. Contacts: Jodi Bruno, 7810, Cynthia Sans, 7492

**10/30/14** – Emergency Operation Table Top Exercise at WaterOne Administration Building, Lenexa, Kan. Contacts: Ken Deason, 7585, Doug Brune, 7178

**11/4-7/14** – National EPA Drinking Water Enforcement Meeting, Washington, DC. Contact: Scott Marquess, 7131

**11/3-6/14** – EPA Tribal 106 Coordinators Meeting, Washington, DC. Contact: Heather Duncan, 7640

**11/11-12/14** – Council of Infrastructure Finance Authorities National SRF Workshop, Portland, Ore. Contacts: Glenn Curtis, 7726, Sabre Germano, 7026

**11/12-14/14** – EPA Assessment TMDL Tracking and Implementation System vision measures training, Washington, DC. Contacts: Tabatha Adkins, 7128, Debby White, 7886